In The Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of identifying a beta catenin pathway inhibitory agent, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) providing ~~an~~ a first assay system comprising a uridine phosphorylase (UP) nucleic acid;

(b) contacting the assay system with a test agent that modulates the expression of UP; and

(c) detecting reduced expression of UP nucleic acid in the presence of the test agent compared to the expression in the absence of said test agent, wherein reduced expression of said UP nucleic acid in the presence of the test agent compared to the expression in the absence of said test agent identifies the test agent as a candidate beta catenin pathway inhibitory agent;

(d) providing a second assay system capable of detecting an inhibition in the beta catenin pathway comprising cultured cells expressing UP,

(e) contacting the assay system of step (d) with the test agent of step (b);

(f) measuring the activity of the beta catenin pathway in the presence or absence of the test agent; and

(g) confirming that the test agent of step (b) is a beta-catenin inhibitory agent by detecting an inhibition in the beta catenin pathway in the presence or absence of the test agent.

2. - 7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the test agent is an antisense oligomer.

10.(Previously presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the test agent is a phosphothioate morpholino oligomer (PMO).

11.– 25. (Canceled)

26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the test agent is an siRNA.

27. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the first assay system comprises cultured cells that express UP.

28. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 27, wherein the cultured cells have defective beta catenin function, wherein the defective beta-catenin function is an increase in beta-catenin function.

29.(Canceled)